IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, said data processing apparatus comprising:

a storage unit that stores therein a connection limitation table including connection limitation information in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are correlated with each other;

a reception unit that receives a request transmitted from ~~the computer~~ an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed;

a port number notifying unit that notifies the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of a port number corresponding to a kind of data process included in the request received by said reception unit;

~~a correlating unit that correlates, after the reception by said reception unit, discrimination information of the computer that transmitted the request and the port number notified by said port number notifying unit with each other;~~

a registration unit that correlates discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request and the port number which was notified by said

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port number notifying unit with each other, forms connection limitation information, and registers the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage unit;

a data receiving unit that receives data addressed to the port number, from ~~an~~ the external apparatus; and

a control unit that discriminates whether or not ~~the port number and discrimination information of the external apparatus have been correlated with each other by said correlating unit~~ the connection limitation information in which the port number received by said data receiving unit and the discrimination information of the external apparatus are correlated with each other has been registered in the connection limitation table by said registration unit, controls to execute a process based on the data received by said data receiving unit in a case where it is discriminated that ~~the port number and the discrimination information of the external apparatus have been correlated with each other~~ the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and controls not to execute the process based on the data received by said data receiving unit in a case where it is discriminated that ~~the port number and the discrimination information of the external apparatus have not been correlated with each other~~ the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said data processing apparatus is a printer.

11. to 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A communicating method performed in a data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, said method comprising:

a storage step of storing, in the data processing apparatus, a connection limitation table including connection limitation information in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are correlated with each other;

a reception step of receiving a request transmitted from ~~the computer~~ an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed;

a port number notifying step of notifying the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of a port number corresponding to a kind of data process included in the request received by said reception step;

~~a correlating step of correlating, after the reception by said reception step, discrimination information of the computer that transmitted the request and the port number notified by said port number notifying step with each other;~~

a registration step of correlating discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request and the port number which was notified by said

port number notifying step with each other, forming connection limitation information, and registering the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage step;

a data receiving step of receiving data addressed to the port number, from ~~an~~ the external apparatus; and

a control step of discriminating whether or not ~~the port number and discrimination information of the external apparatus have been correlated with each other by said correlating step~~ the connection limitation information in which the port number received by said data receiving step and the discrimination information of the external apparatus are correlated with each other has been registered on the connection limitation table by said registration step, controlling to execute a process based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that ~~the port number and the discrimination information of the external apparatus have been correlated with each other~~ the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and controlling not to execute the process based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that ~~the port number and the discrimination information of the external apparatus have not been correlated with each other~~ the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein said data processing apparatus is a printer.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium on which is stored a computer executable control program executed by a data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, wherein said control program causes a processor of the data processing apparatus to execute:

a storage step to store, in the data processing apparatus, a connection limitation table including connection limitation information in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are correlated with each other;

a reception step to receive a request transmitted from ~~the computer~~ an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed;

a port number notifying step to notify the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of a port number corresponding to a kind of data process included in the request received by said reception step;

~~a correlating step to correlate, after the reception by said reception step, discrimination information of the computer that transmitted the request and the port number notified by said port number notifying step with each other;~~

a registration step to correlate discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request and the port number which was notified by said port number notifying step with each other, to form connection limitation information, and to register the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage step;

a data receiving step to receive data addressed to the port number, from ~~an~~ the external apparatus; and

a control step to discriminate whether or not ~~the port number and discrimination information of the external apparatus have been correlated with each other by said correlating step~~ the connection limitation information in which the port number received by said data receiving step and the discrimination information of the external apparatus are correlated with each other has been registered in the connection limitation table by said registration step, to control to execute a process based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that ~~the port number and the discrimination information of the external apparatus have been correlated with each other~~ the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and to control not to execute the process based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that ~~the port number and the discrimination information of the external apparatus have not been correlated with each other~~ the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table.

23. to 37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a discriminating unit that discriminates whether or not to permit communication with the ~~computer~~ external apparatus,

wherein said port number notifying unit notifies the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of the port number in a case where said discriminating unit discriminates to permit the communication with the ~~computer~~ external apparatus.

39. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein ~~the discrimination information of the computer and~~ the discrimination information of the external apparatus ~~are respectively an IP address of the computer and~~ is an IP address of the external apparatus.

40. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said port number notifying unit notifies the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of a first port number if the kind of data process is a printing process for processing print data, and of a second port number if the kind of data process is a managing process for managing the data processing apparatus.

41. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, further comprising a discriminating step of discriminating whether or not to permit communication with the ~~computer~~ external apparatus,

wherein said port number notifying step notifies the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of the port number in a case where said discriminating step discriminates to permit the communication with the ~~computer~~ external apparatus.

42. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein ~~the discrimination information of the computer and~~ the discrimination information of the external apparatus ~~are respectively an IP address of the computer and~~ is an IP address of the external apparatus.

43. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein said port number notifying ~~unit~~ step notifies the ~~computer~~ external apparatus of a first port number if the kind of data process is a printing process for processing print data, and of a second port number if the kind of data process is a managing process for managing the data processing apparatus.

44. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 22, further comprising a discriminating step of discriminating whether or not to permit communication with the ~~computer~~ external apparatus,

wherein said port number notifying step notifies the ~~computer~~ <u>external</u> <u>apparatus</u> of the port number in a case where said discriminating step discriminates to permit the communication with the ~~computer~~ <u>external apparatus</u>.

45. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 22, wherein ~~the discrimination information of the computer and~~ the discrimination information of the external apparatus ~~are respectively an IP address of the computer and~~ <u>is</u> an IP address of the external apparatus.

46. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 22, wherein said port number notifying ~~unit~~ <u>step</u> notifies the ~~computer~~ <u>external apparatus</u> of a first port number if the kind of data process is a printing process for processing print data, and of a second port number if the kind of data process is a managing process for managing the <u>data processing</u> apparatus.